

Cultural Resources

FAST FACTS

# Out & About



## Securing a Future for the Past

*How outreach is building at Ridgefield NWR*

BY VIRGINIA PARKS



VIRGINIA PARKS/USFWS

When 95-year old Gladys Hare changed her will last year, she made a decision that illustrates the far reaching and often unanticipated effects of outreach. Though Mrs. Hare never visited Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge in Washington before she passed away, she left the refuge a \$100,000 bequest “for the long term maintenance of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse” — a structure that does not yet exist!

What does exist is the Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project (CPP), a collaborative effort of the Service and many community partners to construct a replica Chinookan-style cedar plankhouse. Since the project’s inception, outreach has generated money, materials, volunteers... and unexpected gifts like Mrs. Hare’s.

The seed for this project was planted a decade ago when the Service, Portland State University, and the Chinook Tribe developed a partnership to study the archaeological site of Cathlapotle. It bloomed in 2002 when regional planning accelerated for the bicentennial commemoration of Lewis and Clark’s historic expedition.

Two Corps of Discovery camp sites and one of the only intact

Chinookan village sites on the Columbia River give Ridgefield NWR a unique opportunity, and responsibility, to tell the stories of the explorers and the native people they encountered. The goal of CPP is to build a plankhouse similar to the 14 that stood in the village when Lewis and Clark stopped to visit and trade with the Cathlapotle Chinookans in 1806. The completed plankhouse will serve as a natural and cultural heritage education destination for students and the public, offering a glimpse back in time.

Our outreach efforts have primarily focused on raising awareness among potential funding organizations, encouraging hands-on volunteer participation, and providing educational opportunities during the construction process. Thanks to our partnership with the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee (LCBC) of Vancouver/Clark County, which serves as the non-profit arm of the project, CPP has gained stature as one of the county’s “Legacy Bicentennial Projects.” Using FWS funding as leverage, LCBC has garnered over \$290,000 in grants from other organizations, including

CPP volunteers use wooden wedges and sledgehammers to split a plank from a cedar log.

the Ferguson Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, and the National Park Service.

The website ([www.plankhouse.org](http://www.plankhouse.org)) provides regular progress reports and publicizes opportunities for volunteers. In addition, interested community members have signed up for our mailing list at the CPP table during county fairs, farmers markets, and other public events; our mailings help keep our dedicated corps of volunteers and over 300 households aware of work parties, workshops, special events, and in-kind donation needs.

As word spread through the website, mailing list, and newspaper articles, donations of cedar logs started rolling in from private citizens and nearby national forests. Momentum really picked up when regular weekend work parties began on the refuge. The construction site now buzzes with activity as volunteers engage in construction tasks, such as splitting planks, planing eave beams, and notching ridge posts. Over 50

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

**In the Pacific Region:**

- 258,000 of 5.5 million acres (4.7%) of Service lands have been surveyed for cultural resources.
- 2,283 prehistoric and historic sites have been recorded on Service-managed lands.
- 189 of the aforementioned sites are listed on the National Register of historic places, either as individual properties or as part of a historic district.
- In FY03, volunteers conducted 1,819 hours of work valued at more than \$22,000 on cultural resources-related projects.
- The museum property collection includes 43,767 archaeological artifacts, 114 historic artifacts and numerous paleontological, ethnographic, and biological artifacts, which are curated in FWS facilities and at 21 museums and other institutions across the region.



UPCOMING THEMES

FALL: Comprehensive Conservation Planning

WINTER: Outreach Then and Now

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**Out&About**

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- Feature Articles
- Case Studies
- Outreach
- Accomplishments
- Trainings & Workshops
- Announcements
- Q & A
- Letters to the Editor
- Outreach Resources

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# Condors on the Lewis and Clark Trail

*Tying recovery to history*

BY DENISE STOCKTON



ANA FUENTES/USFWS



**W**hen Meriwether Lewis and William Clark first saw a California condor along the lower Columbia River in 1805, they were awed by the size of the bird: "...a buzzard of the large kind... measured from



SPENCER WEINER/USFWS

the tips of the wings across 9 feet..." Clark noted in his journal. Their many observations and the birds they collected remind us that this vulture's distribution in their time was from northern Baja California to the Pacific Northwest.

Over the next 200 years, the condor's population and range shrank south to the mountains of Southern California, almost

becoming extinct in the

early 1980s. Hopper

Mountain NWRC

is the base of operations for condor

reintroduction to southern California,

beginning with the first release in 1992.

Although this Ventura

County refuge is

located far from the

Lewis and Clark Trail,

we were asked to take the

condor story east for the

Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

In January 2003, my husband

Mike, a Hopper Mountain

wildlife biologist, and I traveled

to Charlottesville, Virginia, to join



ALLAN MEE/USFWS

Native people have had a long relationship with the California condor. Many visited the Service's exhibit about condor recovery in Virginia.

the inauguration of the bicentennial commemoration. We staffed a FWS exhibit at the University of Virginia, where many people marveled at the size of condor feathers and learned about the bird's enduring relationship with American Indians.

Representatives of many tribes participated in the week-long event, and many tribal members visited the condor exhibit and learned about the progress of the California Condor Recovery Program. We also gave several presentations at local schools about the historical and cultural value of saving the condor and Mike gave a condor presentation at the National Park Service's "Tent of Many Voices," where it was recorded for the Corps of Discovery II website.

Hopper Mountain continues to be involved with the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial as it moves west. A plan is in motion to create a condor education trunk to make the story of "a buzzard of the large kind..." part of the Pacific Region's Lewis and Clark traveling exhibit being developed by Outreach Specialist Susan Saul in External Affairs.

You can learn more about the condor program at <http://hoppermountain.fws.gov/condor/>. Contact Susan Saul at 503/872-2728 for information on the traveling exhibit. ●

*Denise Stockton is an information and education specialist at Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex.*

# Old Sites Inspire New Messages

*Sharing the stories in stones, bones, and old buildings*

BY ANAN RAYMOND AND EUGENE A. MARINO



NAKIA WILLIAMSON

## From the Regional Office

People have depended upon wildlife for eons to provide food, shelter, and clothing. The plants, animals, and habitats that the Service protects today have served as department stores for people over the millennia. So it is not surprising that the lands we manage contain significant cultural resources.

Cultural resources are the physical remains, sites, records, oral testimony, and traditional life-ways that connect people to our nation's past. They include archaeological and historical sites, structures, landscapes, and sacred locations. They provide clues about how human beings have interacted with land, plants, and animals over time.

Cultural resources have stories to tell. Some are obvious, like the 150-year old Feichter homestead on William Finley NWR. Others are mysterious, like the Indian rock art at Desert NWR. The Civilian Conservation Corps buildings at Sacramento NWR reveal a piece of the Service's conservation story, while the ancient stone blinds on Sheldon NWR remind us that all humans share a hunting legacy. Cultural resources are much more than old stones and bones; many give individuals and groups an identity, perspective, and meaning.

Cultural resource management is also more than a legal exercise to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act. Cultural sites can help us share the mission of the Fish and Wildlife Service. These resources offer rare opportunities to explain the legacy of people and wildlife, and the role humans play in shaping their environment. The Cultural Resources team can help you

identify and protect these heritage resources — and share their stories with your visitors.

## From the Washington Office

There has always been a connection between cultural resources, outreach, and education. Within federal agencies, cultural resource projects are often a significant source of public interaction. In 2002, cultural sites drew an estimated 118 million visitors, making such excursions the third most popular vacation activity in America (*Banking on Nature 2002/USFWS*).

Given this "captive audience," it isn't surprising that education and outreach are the central tenets of the recently issued Executive Order 13287, Preserve

VIRGINIA PARKS/USFWS



Hatchery Manager Bill Miller and members of the Nez Perce tribe dedicate Kooskia NFH's new interpretive trail.

America. This order challenges federal agencies to better identify the status of their heritage assets and find new ways to increase the public benefit from these resources.

Considering America's general interest in archaeology, the Fish and Wildlife Service need only align cultural resources with its current educational programs. For instance, many Service

properties have integrated historical and cultural resources information into auto and self-guided walking tours (Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge, MN). Some have worked with partners, friends, and volunteers on rehabilitating large structures that are important to history and community development (Malheur National Wildlife Refuge). Still other opportunities exist by using the Service's wide array of museum collections.

The Preserve America Executive Order clearly directs federal agencies to

A Nez Perce artist recreated a view of Kam'-nak-ka on a panel for the interpretive trail at Kooskia NFH. See article on page 5.

*These resources offer rare opportunities to explain the legacy of people and wildlife, and the role humans play in shaping their environment.*

improve their role as stewards of the past by including heritage tourism as part of current preservation strategies. This redirected emphasis should increase interest in local history and traditions — and yield economic benefits to local communities. ●

*Anan Raymond is the regional archaeologist in the Branch of Cultural Resources.*

*Eugene A. Marino is the service archaeologist in the Branch of Visitor Services, Washington, D.C.*

ROY W. LOWE/USFWS



On the right Don Ivy, from the Coquille Indian Tribe, talks with Alex Bourdeau to left, a Pacific Region archaeologist examining the excavation.

# Funding for Historic Preservation

*A collection of resources to finance historic places*

BY LOU ANN SPEULDA



ALAN ASH

LOU ANN SPEULDA/FWS

**P**reserving historic places on public lands is very close to the heart of the Fish and Wildlife Service's stewardship approach toward resources. Often, establishing the historic condition of the landscape is a primary focus for field stations; in many cases, the accompanying historic buildings are touchstones to the past — linking people with the environment.

century buildings (Ash Meadows, Conboy Lake, Farallon Island, Finley, Hakalau Forest, Ruby Lake); Civilian Conservation Corps (Camas, Desert, Hart Mountain, Malheur, Minidoka, Sacramento, Tule Lake); landscapes (South San Diego Bay); and hatcheries (Leavenworth, Willard).

While adaptive reuse is a goal of historic preservation, historic buildings on field stations are not all being used, nor is it necessary to keep every property in mint condition. For many properties, minimal maintenance, called “mothballing,” is enough. For unused buildings, mothballing meets the FWS's stewardship responsibility for protecting important resources from fire, weather damage, and vandalism.

Whatever the use, finding funding for historic preservation projects will always be a challenge. To secure funding, you must have a plan ready and a project that is an appropriate size. If the total cost is \$500,000, for example, try breaking it into smaller pieces or phases. In many cases, dividing the work into incremental tasks also makes sense because preservation work is often slow and methodical. In fact, finding a skilled person to do the work is sometimes more difficult than finding the funding!

The Cultural Resources Team can assist you in tracking down preservation experts and grants to revive historic buildings. You will discover that turning your eyesores and public safety hazards into functional tributes to the past will benefit your site and future visitors. ●

*Lou Ann Speulda is an historian in the Branch of Cultural Resources.*

## Funding Sources

**MMS:** Keep historic preservation projects on the MMS list. This may someday result in funding, but don't rely solely on this method to finance the project.

**Site Operations Budget:** Even a few dollars from your operating budget can help purchase supplies or pay for a specialist to keep a building from needing more extensive repairs.

**National Park Service (NPS):** There are several NPS grants for assisting with historic preservation projects. Save America's Treasures (SAT) is appropriate for larger projects on very important properties. We used an SAT grant on Midway Atoll NWR. The new Preserve America Executive Order also provides some incentives.

**Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act:** This resource targeted for Southern Nevada is appropriate for funding historic preservation. These funds are currently helping with the Jack Longstreet Cabin at Ash Meadows NWR.

**Non-profit partners:** There are many state and corporate sponsors that provide money to historic preservation projects, but not directly to federal agencies. If you have a friends group, they can be the link for acquiring grants and funds; the Cultural Resources Team can supply suggestions.

**Challenge Cost Share:** While usually reserved for habitat restoration projects, this program is also appropriate for historic preservation.

**Cultural Resources Team:** The Region 1 Cultural Resources Team is available to work with a specialist, help hire a contractor, and make sure that the project meets the goals of historic preservation. We are also gaining expertise mixing mortar, digging footings, and pounding nails.



Historic places, such as the Last Chance Ranch at Sheldon NWR, often spark community and funding support. Here, stone mason Alan Ash knocks loose stones from the wall.

In Region 1 the variety and number of historic buildings and structures is incredible. Nearly every station boasts resources more than 50 years old, about 200 of which meet the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. A few examples include lighthouses (Kilauea Point); military bases (Midway Atoll); ranches and homesteads (Kootenai, Little Pend Oreille, Malheur, Sheldon); nineteenth

# A Monumental Journey

*Preserving the past for future generations*

BY SUSAN SAWYER

Leaning on her walker, Edith Looking Glass Strombeck tentatively reached toward the shiny bronze plaque, and gently touched it. With that touch a sense of closure flowed through the audience. The monument was home once again and was being honored by descendants of Chief Looking Glass' band of Nez Perce Indians who lost their lives during the war of 1877.

This monument story really began 75 years ago, but a chapter was recently closed following a decade of agreements,



The new replica bronze plaque and stone monument on the Looking Glass-Mill Pond trail at Kooskia NFH, ID.

meetings, memoranda, careful negotiating, respectful listening, and creative funding between the Fish and Wildlife Service, Clearwater National Forest, Nez Perce National Historic Trail, National Park Service (NPS), and the Nez Perce Tribe.

In 1928, historian L.V. McWhorter placed tribute markers at six significant 1877 Nez Perce War battle sites in Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The markers were six feet tall, weighed 120 pounds, and were crowned with a carved chief's head. A bronze plaque bearing a dedication written by McWhorter was attached to each pillar.

Financing was provided by the Chief Joseph Memorial Association, a two-member organization of which McWhorter was president. A unique group installed the monuments — McWhorter and three 1877 Nez Perce War veterans — including the former personal envoy to Chief Looking Glass.

Kam'-nak-ka, the village of the Looking Glass band that came under attack by the Army on July 1, 1877, became the responsibility of the FWS in 1965 as part of Kooskia National Fish Hatchery. Although the original stone shaft commemorating the battle at Kam'-nak-ka had disappeared long ago, the weathered and bullet-ridden bronze plaque was saved and attached to a modified concrete marker of unknown origin.

In 1995, the broken marker and original bronze were found behind a hatchery building. After several phone calls and site visits by regional cultural resource staff and tribal officials, the group decided to relocate and interpret the marker on the Kam'-nak-ka site. When it was discovered that this bronze plaque was one of only two originals in existence, the Service initiated steps to remove and curate it, working with the NPS to find funding for a replica. Using our original to create the mold, the Park Service ordered seven new plaques — one for each of the original battle sites, and one to present to the Nez Perce Tribe. The original McWhorter bronze is being curated and displayed at Nez Perce National Historical Park. Hatchery Manager Bill Miller presented one of the newly mounted

bronzes to Tribal Chairman Sam Penny in 2002, while the plaque intended for display at the hatchery remained in a cabinet until a new pillar was produced.

After consulting with the Tribe, NPS and FWS Cultural Resource Specialist Virginia Parks, the group decided against copying the original six foot shaft due to its top-heavy design and high-profile visibility that might encourage vandalism. A natural stone pillar was chosen, ushering in our next challenge: None of the key players had \$1,500 to pay for it.

*When it was discovered that this bronze plaque was one of only two originals in existence, the Service initiated steps to remove and curate it.*

Kam'-nak-ka lies within the Nez Perce National Historic Trail corridor, so the trail administrator offered end-of-year funds if FWS wrote the agreement and worked with the local vendor who had designed and reproduced the bronzes for the NPS. She also provided an original tribal design for the plaque border.

The new monument was unveiled at a gathering to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the McWhorter installation, and the 126th observance of the village attack. Edith Looking Glass Strombeck and other Looking Glass descendants and Tribe members gave their approval of the new monument in a traditional blessing ceremony, thanking all involved for honoring their heritage. ●

*Susan Sawyer is an information and education specialist at Dworshak-Kooskia Fisheries Complex.*



Many Wounds, Peo Peo Tholekt, and Yellow Wolf pause next to the original monument they installed in 1928 at the Looking Glass Village battle site.

Photo by L.V. McWhorter, courtesy of Washington State University Archives — McWhorter Collection.

SUSAN SAWYER/USFWS



Edith Looking Glass Strombeck, a direct descendant of Nez Perce Chief Looking Glass, views the newly unveiled McWhorter bronze replica.

## Meet Field Notable Roy Lowe

*Tribal support forms bedrock of restoration, research, and outreach*

BY JEANNE CLARK



DAWN GRAFE/USFWS

Not many people can manage to be both the first — and longest-employed — member of a refuge staff. When Roy Lowe was hired as a biologist to open an office on the Oregon coast, he didn't know that he would help to establish new refuges, expand existing ones, assist in nurturing a program into a complex of six refuges spanning 320 miles of the Oregon coast, and still be there 19 years later as a highly-regarded project leader.

When the opportunity to have a hand in creating a refuge occurred, Lowe was ready for it. He had spent over four years working on water development projects at an Alabama Ecological Services Office, including dams and reservoirs that affected seven states.

His move to San Francisco Bay NWR Complex provided the hands-on wildlife management he had been missing, along with opportunities to work with the complex's remarkable diversity. The times he spent on Farallon NWR's sea-battered rocks allowed his love affair with seabirds to blossom.

Protecting habitat for seabirds and other coastal wildlife was a major focus at Lowe's new Oregon job. "In those early years we were just trying to figure out what we had," says Lowe, "and how people were affecting these resources." When the refuge acquired Coquille Point in 1991, he began getting proactive about visitor services. "We restored the headland, added paved trails and interpretive panels, and provided access to a popular beach."

The project heightened his interest in the area's cultural resources. "We began to document these resources, commu-

nicating directly with the Coquille Tribe," says Lowe. In the late 1990s, Bandon Marsh NWR was preparing to expand and acquire over 400 acres of lowlands for tidal marsh restoration. Almost all of it is an archeological site. "We wanted to know what was there, and avoid damaging it," recalls Lowe. "The more I learned, the more interested I became in the Coquille Tribe's history. The estuary had to be extremely productive to support so many native people," he believes. Lowe recognized that the Coquille people helped shape the landscape and fish and wildlife populations through their activities. He sees parallels in the conditions that the refuge is trying to recreate today through management. Lowe plans to highlight their story and partnership in interpretive panels.

DAVID LEDIG/USFWS



Lowe's open door policy has generated broad support, from members of the Tribe to college students.

"Any time we move earth, we consult with the Tribe to understand what might be there; then we invite them to be on site when doing the work. This is not about fulfilling requirements of law. It's about developing understanding, protecting sites, and being a good community member," observes Lowe.

It always pays off. When it was necessary to widen a road to the new

refuge office, Lowe knew it ran through an archeological site. He consulted the Tribe and the Pacific Region Cultural Resources Team (CRT), which has provided enduring support to the complex. The CRT brought in three universities and various government agencies to investigate and help sift every bucket of soil, thereby reducing the refuge's cost for excavation to nearly nothing.

"I always feel like I'm taking more than I'm giving," reflects Lowe. "We widened the road without further damaging the site. We discovered artifacts, such as stone tools and flakes, often buried next to a garden trowel or a beer can. We even found a pendant that was perhaps a thousand years old."

Sharing these types of stories through outreach seems natural to Lowe, whose staff has developed partnerships to prevent seabird disturbance at Cannon Beach on the Fourth of July, used oil spill mitigation funds to create marine resource protection panels and posters for coastal ports, built a state-of-the-art anti-vibration deck to facilitate photography and distance viewing at Cape Meares NWR, and much more.

Their outreach efforts with the Coquille Tribe are equally successful. "They know we value their consultation and opinions, and will go the extra mile to include them. They have been great to us," says Lowe. "We couldn't be successful without them. I know some folks just give lip service to cultural resource requirements," he concludes. "But it has been a pleasure for me to be proactive, and embrace them." ●

Jeanne Clark is editor of Out & About.

ROY W. LOWE/USFWS



Points collected during an emergency cultural resource salvage on Bandon Marsh NWR.

# Restoring a Tidal Marsh

*Tribal participation expands partnership and education opportunities*

BY ROY LOWE

**W**hat a magnificent setting it was. A clear flowing river bounded by extensive tidal flats, marshes, and swamps. Villages and seasonal encampments on terraces and bluffs overlooking the lower Coquille River Estuary, site of the present day Bandon

DAVID LEDIG/USFWS



Students from a cultural resource field class at Southern Oregon University uncover a large hearth feature under the former foundation of the heifer barn on the Ni-les'tun Unit of Bandon Marsh NWR.

Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. For thousands of years, abundant fish, shellfish, and wildlife populations sustained the villages' inhabitants, the first Nation of the Coquille Indians — providing for their physical and spiritual needs.

A lot has changed. Approximately 94 percent of the tidal wetlands and 81 percent of the Coquille River estuary have been lost, primarily to diking, draining, and conversion to agriculture. Bandon Marsh NWR was established in 1983 to protect the estuary's last sizeable salt marsh. In 2000 the refuge acquired 400 acres of diked pastures for tidal wetland restoration. We asked the

Coquille Indian Tribe to name the new refuge unit and they chose "Ni-les'tun," which means "small fish dams in the river." The name refers to the numerous fishing weirs they used to capture everything from salmon to herring. Some date back 300 to 3,000 years, and are still visible on the refuge.

Goals for Bandon Marsh include protecting and restoring native habitats and providing compatible public uses. Since nearly the entire refuge can be considered a cultural resource site, all of our earth moving activities are carried out in consultation with the cultural resource program coordinator for the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Region 1 Cultural Resources Team. We want to understand how native people lived on the landscape, influenced fish and wildlife populations, and currently protect their heritage sites, and be able to interpret cultural and natural history to the public.

Our friendship with the Tribe is built upon three simple words: honor, trust, and respect. These are not spoken words; they are concepts that describe our actions, practices, and principles in working together over the years. Our tribal outreach has been a "two-way street" and continues to evolve as we accomplish projects together and learn from one another.

During the past four years communication with the Tribe has occurred almost weekly, and sometimes on a daily basis, as management activities have accelerated. During this time, we have removed four houses, two barns, two silos, three outbuildings, and an equipment shed. Completed or ongoing

construction includes a shop, residence, bunkhouse, and two parking/overlook areas that will help us better manage and interpret the refuge's resources.

Much of the demolition and construction has occurred immediately adjacent to and even on top of cultural resource sites. The Tribe has been extremely supportive of our efforts and their mantra has been, "There's a way we can get this done and protect cultural resources." The careful demolition of the barn/silo complex revealed that a significant intact cultural resource site was still present under the foundations. Working intimately with the Tribe and 15-person field crew from the University of Southern Oregon during a nine-day investigation, we learned a lot before closing and capping the site, and constructing a parking lot, overlook, and interpretive area. The cost to the refuge for this investigation? The rental of a port-o-potty.

This site now offers an excellent opportunity to provide education and interpretation of the past, present, and future as the refuge embarks on the largest tidal marsh restoration project in the history of Oregon — a marsh that once was integral to the daily lives of the Coquilles. The viewing deck under construction overlooks the future wetland, where panels, school programs, and on-site events will highlight these important resources.

Standing there today, it is not difficult to visualize the past and begin to feel the environmental and spiritual healing that restoration will provide. ●

*Roy Lowe is project leader of Oregon Coast NWR Complex.*

DON IVY/CIT



Coquille Indian Tribe conducts cultural resource investigation of a site located underneath a recently removed barn on the Ni-les'tun Unit of Bandon Marsh NWR.

DAVID S. PITKIN/USFWS



Separated by the U.S. Highway 101 bridge over the Coquille River, Bandon Marsh Unit (foreground), and the Ni-les'tun Unit (background) contain two cultural resource sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

# Operation Indian Rocks

*Interagency outreach opportunity gives ARPA a voice*

BY CARLA BURNSIDE AND VIRGINIA PARKS

USFWS



**A** RPA. It might sound like a dog's happy bark but this acronym comes with its legal teeth designed to protect cultural resources from looting and destruction. The Archaeological Resources Protection Act, established in 1979, prohibits the illegal collection or excavation of pre-historic and historic archaeological sites on public lands. Yet, despite its age, this act has remained a well-kept secret due to limited law enforcement funding, more visible resource priorities, and a serious lack of education—not only among the public, but also those responsible for enforcing it. Working together, however, federal agencies are finding the teeth in this important law, and are beginning to use them.

In 2001, a unique ARPA outreach opportunity arose when two individuals were found in possession of artifacts in Death Valley National Park. This discovery led to the apprehension of a well-organized ring of looters whose trail of destruction led investigators across Nevada onto lands managed by Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service (NPS), and local Tribes. Spearheaded by an NPS special agent well-versed in ARPA, an interagency task force assembled to ascertain the scope of physical and monetary damage. The Service was represented by Pacific Region Cultural Resources Team (CRT) members Carla Burnside and Nick Valentine and a number of special agents from throughout the region.

During a year of fieldwork and laboratory analysis, task force members

conducted outreach to educate the Nevada U.S. attorney's staff (AUSA) about the law and the crime's impact on our national heritage. Frequent field trips to damaged sites and presentations by task force members impressed upon the AUSA staff the value of the resource and the magnitude of destruction. By the time the case was ready for prosecution, the AUSA staff had become a vocal and determined advocate for the law. The defendants didn't stand a chance. As of January 2004, five looters were sentenced to some of the largest fines and longest prison sentences in ARPA history.

To prevent this significant case from fading into obscurity, the task force implemented concerted public and media outreach that included press releases, interviews, and a set of interpretive posters. As a result, the case garnered national exposure, ranging from a National Public Radio segment on ARPA, to newspaper articles in California, Nevada, and even the Washington Post. The posters, designed by CRT member Virginia Parks, have been displayed in the Nevada federal courthouse, at the Clark County fairgrounds, and in a Las Vegas mall, and are currently on view in the Department of Interior building in Washington, DC. Though the posters feature cultural resources in Nevada, they provide a concise overview of the law that can be used in any part of the country.

For years, ARPA's bark has been worse than its bite and universal awareness is still an unrealized goal. The teamwork

**National Register of Historic Places Website**  
Provides information about the NRHP and a searchable database of all properties that are listed at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/>

**USFWS Cultural Resources Homepage**  
Cultural resource highlights from around the Service at <http://refuges.fws.gov/cultural/index.html>

**Region 1 Cultural Resources Homepage**  
Highlights from our own region at <http://pacific.fws.gov/CRM/INDEX.HTM>

**Society for American Archaeology Public Education Committee**  
Includes links to the Teaching Archaeology Sampler of lesson plans, list of state and network coordinators, and past archaeology and public education newsletters at <http://www.saa.org/Education/index.html>

**Library of Congress' American Memory**  
Historical Collections from the National Digital Library provides access to photographs, maps, and other historic documents at <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/amhome.html>

**Archaeology Channel**  
Explore human cultural heritage through streaming media at <http://www.archaeologychannel.org/>

**Anthropology in the News**  
Sponsored by Texas A&M, this website compiles news stories related to archaeology and anthropology at <http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html>

**Petroglyphs and Sunken Ships**  
This training video offers an overview of federal historic preservation requirements and cultural resources managed by the Service. To request a copy, contact the Cultural Resources Team at 503/625-4377.

**BLM's Project Archaeology**  
Curriculum designed to introduce students to the science and ethics of cultural resources at <http://www.blm.gov/heritage/projectarchaeology.htm>

**Grants for Nonprofits for Historic Preservation Projects**  
Looking for financial assistance? Check <http://www.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/2hispres.htm>

**Presenting Archaeology to the Public: Digging for Truths**  
This book edited by John Jameson, 1997, AltaMira Press, highlights collaborations between archaeologists and other specialists in devising strategies for presenting archaeological information to the public.



Four posters were developed to highlight different aspects of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# An Old Barn Brings New Partners Together

*Restored structure also celebrates community involvement*

BY CARLA D. BURNSIDE

In 1888, Peter French completed construction of the last of four unique barns within his cattle empire at the north end of the Blitzen Valley in Oregon. Sod House Ranch, with its spectacular long barn, became a dominant feature on the otherwise flat landscape of the valley. For over 120 years the ranch has served as a reminder of the vast ranching empire that flourished in the valley. In 1935, when the government purchased the valley to secure water for drought-stricken Malheur Lake, the Service became the overseer of two of Peter French's ranches and approximately 40,000 acres of meadows, uplands, and riparian habitat.

KARL SMITH



Nearly 100 years after construction of the barn, Malheur Lake rose above its historic high water level and flooded Sod House Ranch. The barn sat in water and on saturated soils for several years. Structural modifications, rotted support posts and the saturated soils encouraged movement of the barn and by 1999, it was on the verge of falling over. In the face of this crisis a diverse group of people came together to save the barn.

While the stabilization and restoration of the barn is an accomplishment worthy of praise, the partners who came together to save the barn and then celebrate its restoration are truly

something to brag about! In many areas, unique historic buildings are located near urban centers where it is easier to draw corporate sponsors and volunteers. Sod House Ranch is about 160 miles from the nearest large urban center, which made it difficult to find volunteers, partners, and funding. Many of our potential partners didn't even know the barn existed, and if they did, they weren't sure where it was located. The refuge arranged field trips to the barn, organized presentations for community groups, and made a lot of phone calls to potential partners, relying on this grand old barn to build partnerships for the project.

The barn is 116 feet long, 50 feet wide, 20 feet tall; it is open on one side and is constructed from local juniper and ponderosa pine. A central aisle flanked by hay mangers is one of its most impressive features. The weathered timbers bear the scars of use and hint at many stories, motivating refuge volunteers, students from the University of Oregon Architecture School, AmeriCorps volunteers, the Harney County Historical Society, Oregon State Parks maintenance staff, the National Park Service, a preservation specialist, two local ranches, a state-owned lumber mill, and refuge staff to stabilize and restore the structure to its former glory. They accomplished this task using grants, donated materials, and many hours of donated labor.

Over a four-year period, grants obtained by the Harney County Historical Society from the Preserving Oregon program, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Service



KARL SMITH

Challenge Cost Share program provided \$72,000 for materials, funding for a preservation specialist, equipment rentals, construction of an accessible trail through the ranch, and production of interpretive panels. It is, however, the \$114,000 in matching time, donated materials, and the creative use of available materials and equipment that made the project possible.

The barn now stands as testimony to its many partners. The barn restoration, minor repairs to nine other buildings, and construction of the Centennial Trail by the refuge's Youth Conservation Corps were completed last year in time for Refuge Week and the Refuge System's Centennial Celebration. The refuge hosted a Ranching Heritage Day at Sod House Ranch to celebrate the project. Regional Director Dave Allen dedicated the Centennial Trail; the Harney County Cattlewomen put on a barbecue; and community members demonstrated traditional ranching crafts. The event attracted more than 400 people and was such a success that the refuge has decided to host an annual Ranching Heritage Day as a part of Refuge Week activities. ●

*Carla D. Burnside is an archaeologist at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.*



KARL SMITH

A spinning demonstration on Ranching Heritage Day adds pioneer ambiance to the old barn setting.

KARL SMITH



AmeriCorps volunteers helped revive the Sod House Ranch barn and other buildings.

Refuge visitors can experience the renovated barn first-hand, and learn about its history.

# Building a Tule Mat Tepee

*Students use native materials and wisdom to create replica*

BY GREG GREGER



The Wanapum people, called the “People of the River,” lived for thousands of years along the Columbia River upstream of what is now McNary National Wildlife Refuge. The Wanapum way of life centered on the use of available natural resources.

When classes come to the refuge’s Environmental Education Center, use of tule and cattail plants is often a focus of interpretation. To enhance this experience, the Friends of the Mid-Columbia River Refuges and McNary Refuge staff decided to construct a tule mat tepee using traditional materials and construction.

At the start of 2000, it was only a vision. The Friends and refuge staff agreed on a suitable location for the tepee. An eighth grade teacher from the nearby school and her pupils took on construction of the tepee as a special project of their science classes. My previous contacts with the Wanapum leaders had established a rapport that facilitated their support and counsel.

We needed a ready supply of tule reeds to form the “skin” of the tepee. After choosing an area where wildlife would not be affected, harvest of the tule reeds began. Following the Wanapum way, we cut reeds at ground level to obtain maximum length and thickness. Then we tied the reeds in bundles for ease of handling and stood them upright to dry. We subsequently moved them to the Environmental Education Center, where work surfaces had been prepared for mat making.

A Wanapum resource specialist met with the students and volunteers in their initial mat stitching session. For

some, it was their first contact with an American Indian, who patiently showed them how to use special long needles and hemp cord to attach the reeds. Sewing over a marked template, students worked together to complete the seams on each mat. Several tule stems were pierced crosswise with the needles before the hemp cord was tightly pulled through the stems. The sewers repeated the procedure until the mats were threaded to six foot lengths. They finished by binding the seams and trimming the mats to a width of 48 inches.

Interest in this project was infectious. I persuaded a long time associate to harvest and deliver the lodgepole pine tepee poles needed for the frame. After erecting the poles, we fastened the mats to the poles in horizontal rows. Following traditional ways, we left an east-facing entrance in the lower rows and made a cover of cattail stems for the opening, twined together so that it could be rolled up to the four-foot level.

In keeping with the heritage of the Wanapum people, we used only materials and supplies that were available in nature. Volunteers provided the labor, so this highly valuable project was completed with a “zero” budget. The students who participated in its creation speak of it as “their” tepee. The spiritual leader of the Wanapums responded to the Friends’ invitation to dedicate the completed tepee, celebrating it as an important tool for sharing information about the native crafts and traditions of the People of the River. ●

*Greg Greger is a volunteer with the Friends of the Mid-Columbia River Refuges.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

3-5

Oregon Shorebird Festival  
WHERE: North Bend, OR  
CONTACT: Oregon Coast NWRC  
541/867-4550

10

Carson NFH 6th Annual  
Disabled Fishing Day  
WHERE: Carson, WA  
CONTACT: 509/427-5905

11

Carson NFH 6th Annual  
Kid's Fishing Day  
WHERE: Carson, WA  
CONTACT: 509/427-5905

11-12

Modoc Wildlife Festival  
WHERE: Alturas, CA  
CONTACT: 530/233-3572  
<http://modoc.fws.gov>

16-19

Wenatchee River Salmon Festival  
WHERE: Leavenworth, WA  
CONTACT: Corky Broadbus  
509/548-6662 ext. 250  
[www.salmonfest.org](http://www.salmonfest.org)

25

National Hunting and Fishing Day  
WHERE: National  
CONTACT: National Shooting  
Sports Foundation  
203/426-1320

25

Nisqually Watershed Festival  
WHERE: Olympia, WA  
CONTACT: Sheila McCartan  
360/753-9467

25-26

Spring Creek NFH Visitors Weekend  
WHERE: Underwood, WA  
CONTACT: Spring Creek NFH  
509/493-1730

## UPCOMING TRAINING

### SEPTEMBER

30

THROUGH  
OCTOBER 1

Planning for Effective  
Public Involvement  
WHO: Cascade Chapter, Internat'l.  
Assoc. for Public Participation  
WHERE: Portland, OR  
CONTACT: [www.iap2.org/chapters/  
cascadechptr.shtml](http://www.iap2.org/chapters/cascadechptr.shtml)

### OCTOBER

5-7

Watchable Wildlife  
WHERE: Dubuque, IA  
CONTACT: [http://www.watchable  
wildlife.org/conference/  
default.htm](http://www.watchablewildlife.org/conference/default.htm)

14-19

International Association  
for Public Participation  
WHERE: Portland, OR  
CONTACT: [www.iap2.org](http://www.iap2.org)

### NOVEMBER

16-20

National Interpreters  
Workshop (NAI)  
WHERE: Grand Rapids, MI  
CONTACT: [http://www.interpnet.  
com/niw2004/index.htm](http://www.interpnet.com/niw2004/index.htm)

PHOTOS: GREG GREGER/FRIENDS OF MCR

*Above:* Students put wood chips inside of completed tepee under the guidance of project leader Greg Greger.

*Top right:* A Wanapum resource specialist demonstrates the weaving techniques used to convert the harvested tule into mats to cover the tepee.

# Announcements

## Farewell to a Friend



In April, David Johnson, deputy project leader at Sheldon-Hart NWRC, lost his wife, Kaye, during a vehicle

accident en route to a long-anticipated rafting trip. With this loss, refugees also lost a very special friend. Kaye McIntyre Johnson was a devoted FWS spouse and volunteer at seven refuges in Regions 1 and 6 during more than two decades. Her home was always open to guests, who enjoyed Kaye's warm hospitality and ate many great meals at the Johnson table.

Kaye's list of refuge contributions reads like a resume! She directed many Ruby Lake visitors to good fishing and birding spots and once organized a rescue effort to find a boater lost in the marsh. She planted trees at Hakalau Forest, counted albatross on Midway Atoll, landscaped at Arapaho, and fixed up refuge houses at almost every refuge that she called home. She assisted with biological surveys, Christmas bird counts, and worked with school groups. She always said "yes," yet was able to pursue her own profession in health care for children and families.

Kaye exemplified a standard of giving and support common among many FWS spouses. Her kindness, contributions, and generosity of spirit were appreciated — and are sorely missed.

## NWRC Video Wins Award

Sacramento NWRC's 15-minute refuge video was recently honored with an "Award of Distinction" from The Videographer Awards and recognized as a finalist in the 24th Annual Telly Awards. The video was produced, written, narrated, and directed by the complex staff in cooperation with Impact Media Group of Chico, California. The project used limited funding from the

Challenge-Cost Share Program to produce the video, which has been duplicated on CD.

Its music, stunning images, and moving narrative were recognized by The Videographer Awards, which wrote, "There were 2,376 entries from throughout the U.S. and several foreign countries... Your work was judged to be among the best that was submitted... The Award of Distinction is awarded for projects that clearly exceed industry standards... The Telly Award represents a significant creative achievement." For information, contact Denise Dachner at 530/934-2801.

## Island Without Vehicles on CarTalk Radio

Some may be curious as to how Farallon NWR, a wilderness island refuge without any vehicles or motorized access, was on "Car Talk," a National Public Radio program aired on May 9. The radio talk show hosts and listeners offered advice to the refuge and its management partner, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, regarding repairs of the island's diesel-burning heating and hot water system. Although the system was repaired before the show was aired, the advice has been filed away for future reference... another breakdown is only a matter of time!

## Video Available for Fairs

If you attend college fairs, local events, or organization meetings where you speak about the Fish and Wildlife Service, you may want to contact NCTC to request copies of two videos originally prepared for college recruitment. The fast-paced, upbeat videos are set to music and show Service personnel in action. One is an hour long and the other runs four minutes; both are continuous loop. For information, contact Elizabeth Jackson at 304/876-7675.

## Securing a Future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

volunteers have already donated more than 2,200 hours of labor.

Traditional skills workshops also generate interest and project awareness. Taught by native and non-native artisans and funded with donations, the series introduces volunteers to a variety of the skills needed to construct, furnish, and interpret the building. These workshops also offer an opportunity to experiment with ideas for educational programs that will be offered at the plankhouse.

Though our outreach efforts to date have emphasized hands-on involvement and support from traditional granting organizations, Mrs. Hare's generous bequest opened our eyes to the impact outreach can have. While we will never know what inspired Mrs. Hare to put her faith into the potential of a plankhouse that did not yet exist, we are grateful for her vision and will work to ensure that her faith was well placed. Outreach will be our best tool. Who knows what other welcome and unexpected gifts it may engender! ●

*Virginia Parks is an archaeologist in the Region 1 Cultural Resources Office. Illustration, page 1, Ken Morris/USFWS.*

## Indian Rocks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

of the federal agencies involved in Operation Indian Rocks did, however, succeed in giving ARPA a public voice that will continue to grow in defense of America's cultural heritage.

The set of four posters is available to field stations as a PDF suitable for printing. Contact Virginia Parks at [Virginia\\_Parks@fws.gov](mailto:Virginia_Parks@fws.gov) for a CD. They can be displayed in visitor centers, at fairs, during state historic preservation celebrations, or any public event! ●

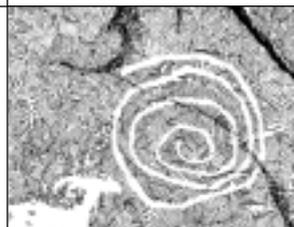
*Virginia Parks is an archaeologist in the Pacific Region's Branch of Cultural Resources and Carla Burnside is an archaeologist at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.*

VIRGINIA PARKS/USFWS



It takes the strength, ingenuity, and goodwill of Tribal members, volunteers, and others to raise this post for the plankhouse.

USFWS



# Hanford Theater Project

*Improvisational actors bring history to life*

BY SUSAN SAUL



JENNA GASTON/USEFS

*Top right:* Improvisational theater actors listen to old timers talk about life in Columbia River towns, and then reenact their stories.

**F**ormer residents of White Bluffs, Hanford, and Priest Rapids recently gathered in Richland, Washington, to relive stories of these long-gone towns on the banks of the Columbia River in central Washington.

Giving them only days to leave, the federal government evicted residents from their homes and communities in 1943. As World War II raged, Manhattan Project scientists raced in absolute secrecy to build an atomic weapon before Germany or Japan did. In order to build the world's first three full-scale nuclear reactors for plutonium production on the 500,000-acre Hanford Site, 1,500 people were relocated and their towns and farms vanished.

*Honoring the Memories: the Human Landscape of the Hanford Reach National*

*Monument* is one phase of a Fish and Wildlife Service oral history research project. Funded in part by a Service challenge cost share grant, Jenna Gaston, the monument's cultural resource manager, designed this live theater project to honor each person's story and bring it to life for the public.

There was no lack of volunteers when the theater "conductor" asked for stories. Younger generations, or even the pioneers themselves, would goad one another to speak. The audience listened intently to pioneer accounts of traveling dirt tracks through the Columbia Basin desert for miles in response to promises of water, jobs, and even street cars. The conductor reined in rambling stories and tied up the loose ends for the stage reenactment.

Everyone then watched the stories come to life as improvisational actors from the North Central Washington Playback Theatre Company portrayed the feelings and details of the poignant and humorous vignettes. The veteran community theater actors moved as a team to weave an entertaining and fluid story with the aid of colored scarves, wooden boxes, and a lot of body language and sound effects.

The production was so successful that the White Bluffs-Hanford Pioneers have requested a second grant-funded performance to be conducted at their annual reunion in 2004. ●

*Susan Saul is an outreach specialist in the region's External Affairs Office.*



## WHAT'S NEW ?

### Kealia Pond NWR Supports Recycling, Gets Boardwalk:

Maui County, Hawaii residents are recycling plastic milk, water, and juice jugs at three times the normal rate for the 2,200-foot Kealia Coastal Boardwalk to be built of recycled plastic "lumber." The elevated boardwalk will provide access to Kealia Pond NWR and interpretive facilities. About 1.5 million jugs are needed to make 4,500 planks of weather-resistant decking and handrails. The \$2.6 million boardwalk is being funded by the Federal Highways Administration and other partners.

**National Fire Outreach Team Formed:** Brian Gales, prescribed fire specialist at the Willamette Valley NWRC, is the Region 1 representative on the newly formed National Fire Outreach Team. Susan Saul, outreach specialist in External Affairs, is his alternate. Dick Birger, project leader at Desert NWRC, is representing CNO. The new team was deliberately selected to create a mix of job skills, geographic locations, programs, and organizational levels.

**Oregon Values and Beliefs Survey:** Ten years after its debut in 1992, the 2002 Oregon Values and Beliefs Survey

revealed an in-depth picture of what Oregonians really think, value, and believe. Family continues to come first but other concerns have shifted: Oregonians are now more concerned about education funding and caring for senior citizens. The report available at [www.oregonvalues.org](http://www.oregonvalues.org) can help us frame outreach messages and forecast emerging issues.

**Quilcene National Fish Hatchery Tour:** The Division of Diversity and Civil Rights and the Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries recently arranged a special tour of Washington's Quilcene National Fish Hatchery. Ten students and the Director of the Minorities in Marine Science Undergraduate Program at Western Washington State University's Shannon Point Marine Center learned about Service programs and careers in fisheries. For information, contact Jerry Wells at 503/736-4789.

**New NCTC Outreach Site:** The Division of Education Outreach at the National Conservation Training Center launched a new outreach website which includes case studies of Service programs from across the nation. View it at <http://sii.fws.gov/r9extaff/DEOoutreachsii.htm>

**Volunteer Certificate Available:** Want to give your volunteers a little tangible recognition? A downloadable volunteer recognition certificate is available from Marguerite Hills via email.